

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

August 25, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR GENERAL SCOWCROFT

FROM: The Situation Room
SUBJECT: Morning News Summary

The Washington Post

The Post headlines deal with President Ford's call for an early beginning of the debates, and Carter's appearance before the American Legion in Seattle. (A-1)

The Senate intelligence committee sent to the floor yesterday legislation setting new guidelines for the use of wiretaps and other kinds of electronic snooping on foreign agents. Under the bill, requests for wiretaps or other forms of electronic surveillance of foreign intelligence activity would have to be sent first to the attorney general for approval, and then to one of seven U.S. District Court judges. If a judge found the request unreasonable, the administration could appeal to a three-judge panel, and then, as a last resort, to the Supreme Court. The President or the attorney general could order a tap in an emergency, but they still would have to go through the court procedure within 24 to 72 hours. (A-1)

Robin Wright writes that Rhodesian Prime Minister Smith says that the Rhodesian government, despite an eagerness to have the U.S. "take the lead" in finding a settlement to his country's 11-year-old constitutional crisis, will not agree to black majority rule in two years. A British plan for majority rule in two years was recently endorsed by the U.S. government in new negotiations under American sponsorship. Smith denounced the plan, saying: "This question of quick majority rule is a facile, superficial argument to our plan. (A-16)

According to David B. Ottaway, American diplomats in Lusaka are increasingly concerned about the possible refusal of Congress to approve any substantial aid for Zambia and the effects this is likely to have on the U.S.' new stated policy in southern Africa. The Senate Appropriations Committee approved \$22.5 million for a commodity loan to this

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country as part of Secretary Kissinger's proposed aid package to Zambia, Zaire, and Mozambique. But the House version of the same bill provides no funds at all for Zambia. The failure of Congress to approve the loan would be an extreme embarrassment to the U.S. embassy and American diplomats fear it will raise questions about the credibility of the new American posture toward the black African frontline states bearing the brunt of the nationalist guerrilla war against white-ruled Rhodesia. The growing importance attached to Zambia by the U.S. is reflected in the increasing number of high-level State Department officials making stops there. Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs William Schaufele is scheduled to arrive in Lusaka Wednesday for the fourth time since April 27, when he accompanied Secretary Kissinger on his African trip. Schaufele is expected to discuss the state of Kissinger's diplomatic initiative to find a quick, peaceful solution to the Rhodesia problem and may also broach the issue of military aid for Zambia. (A-18)

Murrey Marder says that the U.S. should act against South Africa for its failure to surrender control of Namibia (Southwest Africa) when a UN deadline expires Tuesday, a House subcommittee was told yesterday. Secretary Kissinger's hope for resolving the Rhodesian and Namibian racial conflicts are caught up in the expiring deadline. Simultaneously, the racial violence spreading across South Africa is undercutting Kissinger's plans to rely on South Africa to put pressure on Rhodesia to grant majority rule to its black population. Kissinger is preparing to make a decision soon on whether to hold another meeting with South African Prime Minister John Vorster. (A-18)

Andrew Horvat writes that a general meeting of Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic party passed a resolution yesterday calling for the immediate resignation of Premier Takeo Miki. Vice Premier Fukuda, whose huge faction once propped up Miki's rule in the badly splintered Liberal Democratic Party, withdrew his support and stepped down. It was generally expected that Miki would agree to Fukuda's request to step down in what has been termed "an amicable manner," but the premier told reporters yesterday that he will never yield to political force. "Miki no longer has the power to rule," Fukuda told reporters. (A-22)

Douglas Watson reports that Syria has agreed to attend a proposed summit conference of Arab heads of state to discuss Lebanon's civil war, providing it regards the agenda as sufficiently broad. Syrian Foreign Minister Khaddam said the summit conference should discuss the overall Arab situation, particularly in Lebanon." Reference to "the

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overall Arab situation" is being interpreted as an indication that Syria will insist that Egypt's signing of the Sinai agreement with Israel nearly a year ago also be a subject of discussion. (A-24)

Evans and Novak write that the State Department is considering quiet U.S. support for a desperate last-hope plan, backed by a few influential Rhodesian blacks and whites, to attempt quick black-majority rule in Rhodesia without mass killings in an escalating guerrilla war and without flight of white economic resources and skills. The heart of the plan: a system of rich economic rewards to persuade the country's 270,000 whites to stay in Rhodesia after black-majority rule. (A-27)

The New York Times

John Burns states that Zulu vigilante groups armed with clubs and knives clashed violently with youthful demonstrators in Soweto last night amid growing indications of a backlash against a harassment campaign that has kept more than two-thirds of the black township's labor force away from jobs in Johannesburg for two days. (1)

According to Bernard Gwertzman, the State Department said that the latest move by South Africa to grant South-West Africa independence by the end of 1978 was "a step in the right direction," but that it did not go far enough to meet American and UN demands. (1)

James Woeten reports that Jimmy Carter was vigorously booed by hundreds of American Legion members after he told them he would issue a pardon to Vietnam War draft resisters if he should become president. (1)

Peter Kilborn reports that Prime Minister Callaghan called an emergency cabinet meeting yesterday as the country's worst drought on record threatened to disrupt the economy. (1)

According to David Andelman, the first phase of Vietnam's fence-mending with its neighbors now seems to be over, and Hanoi is waiting to reap some of the rewards, both tangible and intangible, from its conciliatory policy. (1)

Andrew Malcolm reports that more than two-thirds of the parliamentary members of the governing Liberal-Democratic

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Party met yesterday and unanimously called in effect for the ouster of their own party leader, Prime Minister Miki. (3)

Fox Butterfield reports that South Korean officials and many ordinary South Koreans indicated that they were confused and disappointed by the Ford administration's handling of the current crisis in Korea. (8)

C. L. Sulzberger writes that Jimmy Carter doesn't pretend the foreign policy planks of either political party represent mandates laying down an international program to be followed by the next elected president. Obviously, Mr. Carter doesn't pretend to have specific answers to all questions facing the U.S. as its third century commences. He is admittedly uncertain about the phenomenon of so-called "Eurocommunists" -- the Western Marxist parties approaching political power, as in Italy. He fears the latter may have "divided loyalties" between their own nations and the Soviet Union. He would like to help, if possible, to strengthen non-Marxist democratic movements in such lands but eschews U.S. "attempts to dominate" them or to "subvert nondemocratic groups," and wouldn't withdraw support from Western governments including Communists, thereby driving them toward Moscow. (33)

The Baltimore Sun

South Korean politicians and newspapers yesterday accused the U.S. of backing down on its firm stand toward North Korea over the ax-slaying of two American officers last week. Members of President Park Chung Hee's authoritarian government declined official comment. But Seoul seethed with criticism of Washington's statement Monday calling a "positive step" North Korean President Kim Il Sung's indirect statement of regret over the bloody tree-pruning dispute in the truce zone. (A-1)

The State Department called yesterday for immediate free elections in Namibia and a political role for the militant South-West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO). A recent decision by a multiracial committee setting the end of 1978 as the date for Namibia's independence "does not go far enough," Robert L. Funseth, the department spokesman said. The spokesman's statement, at a briefing, had the direct backing of Secretary Kissinger. High level U.S. officials said the statement advanced U.S. policy in Namibia, putting Washington more fully in accord with the UN. (A-2)

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According to a Sun editorial, the riots, strikes and other forms of protest that have raged unchecked for more than two months in black townships across South Africa no longer relate to narrowly defined grievances. They endanger the policy at the heart of the government's plan for perpetuating apartheid and the denial of citizenship to the black majority. This is the establishment of nine black homelands, to become theoretically sovereign, so that all blacks may be regarded as citizens of those countries, and thus as foreigners without rights where they live and work. Prime Minister Vorster is planning a dramatic announcement of reforms to loyal National party leaders on September 10. Each day the need grows for that announcement to be more dramatic than he can possibly intend. (A-12)